

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

70. (New) A suture anchor system, comprising:

a radially expandable suture anchor including a bore extending longitudinally from a proximal end, and a suture engaging tip at a distal end, the suture engaging tip having formed therein a suture thread-engaging groove; and

an expander pin configured for insertion into the bore of the suture anchor so as to effect a radial expansion of the suture anchor from a first diameter to a second, larger diameter.

71. (New) The system of claim 70, wherein the suture anchor further includes a through-hole extending therethrough in a direction transverse to a longitudinal axis of the anchor.

72. (New) The system of claim 70, wherein the suture engaging tip is tapered.

73. (New) The system of claim 70, wherein the suture anchor is comprised of an expandable sleeve in engagement with the suture engaging tip.

74. (New) The system of claim 73, wherein the expandable sleeve and the suture engaging tip are threadingly engaged.

75. (New) The system of claim 70, wherein the suture anchor includes an external surface feature for engaging bone.

76. (New) The system of claim 75, wherein the external surface feature is selected from the group consisting of ridges, wedges, and fins.

77. (New) The system of claim 70, wherein the expander pin includes a tool-engaging bore extending from a proximal end thereof.

78. (New) The system of claim 70, wherein the expander pin includes a surface feature effective to assist in the radial expansion of the sleeve.

79. (New) The system of claim 70, wherein the suture anchor further includes a pair of longitudinally extending slits extending from the proximal end thereof.

80. (New) The system of claim 79, wherein the expander pin includes a pair of fins having a complementary shape to the slits of the anchor and being configured to engage the slits and expand the anchor.

81. (New) The system of claim 70, wherein the expander pin is tapered.

82. (New) The system of claim 70, wherein the suture anchor is formed from a bioabsorbable material.

83. (New) The system of claim 82, wherein the bioabsorbable material is selected from the group consisting of high density polyethylene, polypropylene, polylactic acid, and polysulfone.

84. (New) The system of claim 70, wherein the expansion pin is formed from a bioabsorbable material.

85. (New) The system of claim 84, wherein the bioabsorbable material is selected from the group consisting of polylactic acid and polysulfone.